

## **Public Library**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Friday, September 9, 2005

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## **Deputy Mayor Atkins and Councilmember Madaffer to Open** New College-Rolando Branch Library on Sept. 9

SAN DIEGO – With a huge crowd of local residents in eager anticipation, Deputy Mayor Toni Atkins and City Councilmember Jim Madaffer officially opened the new College-Rolando Branch Library with a ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony today. Located at 6600 Montezuma Road, the new, 15,222-square-foot facility is a state-of-the-art library and is three times larger than the old College-Heights Branch it replaces.

"The new College-Rolando Branch Library will be an incredible resource for the communities it serves," said Councilmember Madaffer, in whose district the library is located. "Thanks to tremendous support from local residents, this library will be an outstanding educational and recreational center to be enjoyed by people of all ages."

The new library features a computer lab, community meeting room, seminar rooms and a large children's area. It also offers wireless Internet access, a fireplace and an outdoor patio. Access to the 65-space parking area will be provided from both Reservoir Drive and Mohawk Street.

In addition, the College-Rolando Branch is the first of four libraries to feature a Preschooler's Door to Learning Center that will provide services that allow young children to discover the pleasures of reading and learning.

Three years of community meetings and discussions about the location, amenities and design of the new library resulted in a building that reflects the diverse histories and interests of the College and Rolando communities.

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"The plans for the College-Rolando Branch have been a partnership between the City and the Friends of the College-Rolando Library, with the goal of providing a place of learning and enjoyment," said City Library Director Anna Tatár. "This library will be an important part of the community for generations."

The opening ceremony included a color guard from Boy Scout Troop 308 and music performed by College Lutheran Church Preschool. Other speakers at the event included Mel Katz, chairman of the Board of Library Commissioners; Doris Perry, Friends of the College-Rolando Library; and Lawson Hickey, a 5-year-old local resident. Pastor Doug Knutson-Keller led the invocation.

This project was part of a citywide program to build or improve 24 libraries throughout San Diego. The College-Rolando Branch is the third completed project, following the construction of a new Point Loma/Hervey Branch and an expanded La Jolla/Riford Branch. Currently under construction are an expanded Otay Mesa-Nestor Branch and new branches for North University Community and Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa.

The College-Rolando Branch Library is open Monday and Wednesday, 12:30 to 8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Friday, 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The library's phone number is 619-533-3902. For more information about services and programs, stop by the new branch or visit the Library on the City's Web site at <a href="http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/">http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/</a>.

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